THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY) (a) to (c) M/s Kudremukh Iron & Steel Company Ltd. has been established to set up a Pig Iron and a Ductile Iron Spun Pipe (DISP) Plant at Mangalore. The Pig Iron Plant is expected to be commissioned by June 2000. The estimated cost of the Pig Iron Plant and the Ductile Iron Spun Pipe Plant together is Rs. 328 crores.

(d) Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Ltd. (KIOCL) has already set up a Pellet Plant of 3 million tonnes per year capacity at Mangalore. Pellet is a value added product. The capacity of the Pellet Plant has been augmented to 4 million tones per annum. As a diversification measure, KIOCL in Joint Venture with M/s MECON and MSTC, has established a separate company called Kudremukh Iron & Steel Company Ltd. for the purpose of setting up of the Pig Iron & the Ductile Iron Spun Pipe Plant.

Shipbreaking Yard at Paradeep Port

5286. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the ports where shipbreaking facilities are available at present;

(b) whether the proposal to set up a shipbreaking yard at Paradeep and to convert it into a shipbreaking port is under the consideration of Government;

(c) if so, the reasons for the delay; and

(d) the steps taken to set up the shipbreaking yeard at Paradeep?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) The shipbreaking facilities are presently available at—

Alang Sosiya in Gujarat.

Sacchana in Gujarat.

Mumbai in Maharashtra.

Coleutta in West Bengal.

Kakinada in Andhra Pradesh.

(b) No, Sir. There is no proposal at present under consideration of Ministry of Steel to set up a shipbreaking yard at Paradeep.

(c) and (d) Questions do not arise in view of (b) above.